



Holy Spirit

March 22, 2019
School Newsletter

~Living Stations of the Cross -

Congratulations to our Holy Spirit 7th and 8th grade students who presented a very moving *Living Stations of the Cross* today at 2pm (and will present again at 7pm tonight) to help each of us move deeper into our Lenten prayer and meditation of the steps that Jesus took along the road to Calvary. We want to give a special Thank You to Mr. Joe Houdek, the Holy Spirit Children's Choir, and the Holy Spirit Chamber Choir whose musical interludes assist us in transition between Stations of the Cross.

~Drama News

Dr. Doolittle, Jr. - Kudos to our talented performers in Dr. Doolittle, Jr. A huge thank you goes out to our musical director, Mr. Dave Inbody, and to the cast, the crew, and the many parents and teachers who helped!

Summer Theatre Camps - Mr. Inbody will be holding two Summer Theatre Camps this year. Students entering Gr 3-6 will have a week long camp here from 8:30-1:00 either the week of June 10th-14th, or the 24th-28th, dependent upon scheduling issues. We will let you know as soon as the dates are determined. Students entering Gr. 7-9 will be doing the Lion King at Coopersville on June 11th-22nd from 2:00-8:00. Registration information will be coming out soon.

~2019-20 Registration Update

Thank you to everyone who has registered for the 2019-20 school year thus far. As a reminder, when you complete your SMART registration and enter your credit card or banking information, the registration fee will be charged automatically within a few days. The registration fee increases after the due date. Also, please review, make changes, and sign and return your Census Verification Forms to the office. For those who have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible to secure your placement (enrollwithsmart.com). Thank you.

~March Reading Month

March is filled with activities such as a March Reading Calendar, Whitecaps Reading Incentive, March Madness Book Tournament, Read In, and Read-O with book excerpts read over morning announcements. Happy reading!

~Student Council News

Thank you to all of the families who have already participated in our Lenten Project by supporting our 20 new Rwandan refugee friends from the Learning Cafe at St. Andrew's Cathedral. Our Student Council Members are writing pen pal letters and playing board games with them. Items still needed are school supplies and healthy snacks like granola bars, crackers, apples, and string cheese. We will be collecting them through April 18th. Thank you!

~Just a Reminder

If you wish to be a chaperone on any of the upcoming field trips, you must attend a Virtus Class and have a background check on file. Any questions, please contact Diane School at dschoof @hsparish.org.

Important Dates:

Friday, March 22nd

~Living Stations 2pm & 7pm
~End of 3rd Quarter

Tuesday, March 26th

~PTA Mtg. 7pm – Library

Thursday, March 28th

~Easter Candy Color Day

Friday, March 29th

~Mass 8:45am
~3rd Qtr. Report Cards
Online

Monday, April 1st – 5th

~No School, Spring Break!
Child Care - **OPEN**

Monday, April 8th

~School Resumes

Friday, April 12th

~Mass 8:45am

Friday, April 19th

~Good Friday – No School
Child Care – **CLOSED**

Monday, April 22nd

~Easter Mon. –No School
Child Care - **OPEN**

Thursday, April 25th

~Titan Toddler Time 10:15

Friday, April 26th

~Mass 8:45am
~Yearbook Orders Due
~Variety Show Entries Due
~Newsletter/Calendar

HS Happenings



~ Easter Basket Candy Drive – On Thursday, March 28th, students are asked to bring one bag of Easter candy per family to help make Easter a little sweeter for our Steepletown preschool friends.

~ Easter Food Drive – Your donations have been wonderful! The Parish will be putting food baskets together to be delivered to families in need before Easter.

~ Learning Café – We will continue to collect school supplies and healthy snacks through April 18th. Thank you for supporting our new refugee friends!

REMINDERS & SAVE THE DATES

PTA Meeting ~ The last meeting of the year is March 26th at 7:00pm in the library. We hope you can join us!

Holy Spirit Youth Group – Youth Group is a time to hang out with other teens, laugh, have fun, pray a little, share faith, share concerns, eat snacks, play games, and the list goes on. Contact Sean Donovan, Youth Minister, at sdonovan@hsparish.org if you would like more information.

Paper Gator Reminder ~ Please don't forget to use our Paper Gator in the back parking lot to recycle any newspapers, shredded documents, catalogues, phone books, and magazines. Our school averages close to \$1000 per year for recycling paper! Thank you to everyone for participating! Please remember no plastic bags or garbage bags used for bundling. If you know of anyone that would like his or her papers picked up, please call Lori DeBruyne (616) 822-3162.

PUBLISHING CENTER CONTEST

Teachers currently in the lead are:

Mrs. Duffy and Mrs. Kastner

**Students are welcome to check in at the Publishing Center, when it is open, to see if they have qualified for an ice cream treat!
Contest Ends 4/30**

Awesome Authors Club!

Congratulations to the following HS published authors for February!
Encourage your student to write, their imaginations are amazing!

KK: Emma V., Elyse B., Owen A., Christian H.

1H: Evelyn A.,

1S: Maisie M., Skylar P., Erik H.

4D: Judy H., Owen A., Kate S., Megan B., Natalie W.

5C: Riley B., Tessa B., Greta A.

Birthday Book Club

Thank you to **Will C., Mrs. Clancy, Mackenzie C., Kaitlyn C., Drew B., Makayla B., and Rogue C.** - our newest Birthday Book Club members. Their donation to the school library is greatly appreciated! In return for their generosity, they have each received a color day pass.

Boosters' News

Goodies Factory Fundraiser – Thanks to all who participated in the popcorn/cookie dough fundraiser supporting the Holy Spirit Boosters! We appreciate your support for this Boosters Fundraiser regardless if you have an athlete or not! Our goal is to continue to support a strong athletic program, nice uniforms, awesome fields and facilities, and the equipment needed for our students and athletes to excel!

Athletics Help Needed! – In order to provide our student-athletes the best experience on our baseball and softball fields, we need volunteers to help with spring cleaning. We're thankful for our families who have taken pride in our great facilities. We can't do this work without you. If you are able to help with weeding, raking, cleaning, etc., please contact Athletic Director, Damon Bouwkamp @ athletics@hsparish.org.

Religious Education News

May 2nd @ 6:00 PM – First Communion Practice in church. We are also looking for Eucharistic Ministers for First Communion Mass on Sunday, May 5th at **2:00 pm**.

May 7th @7:00 PM – Grade 8 Confirmation at St. Andrew's Cathedral.

Vacation Bible School – Looking ahead to June, in order to have VBS this year, we will need 10 adult volunteers to lead the children through the four evenings of activities. Please volunteer with Diane Schoof in the Religious Ed Dept., asap. Thank you.

Holy Spirit Child Development Center: Summer Care Program 2019: Enrollment Information

It is that time of year again to be thinking about summer child care. The CDC staff members are very excited and have been busy planning activities for our 2019 Summer Care Program. Summer Care will begin on Monday, June 10, 2019 and will end on Tuesday, August 13, 2019. The Summer Care Program is available for Holy Spirit school children. Children must be fully enrolled at Holy Spirit for the 2019-2020 school year for Preschool (3 years of age and toilet-trained) through 8th grade. The center hours are 7:00 am until 6:00 pm., Monday through Friday (closed Thursday, July 4 & Friday, July 5). Each day will be filled with special activities for all the children. There are also weekly destination field trip opportunities for children using child care who will be entering 1st through 8th grade in the fall. **For enrollment information and availability please contact Melanie Francis at mfrancis@hsparish.org.**



★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Jakub K., Hadley P., Andrew S., Sam B., Patrick S., Jagger S., Sophia P., Landon B., Parker P., Dylan P., Marie C., Aiden D., Erik H., Emily W., James C., Annabelle P., Addison W., Samantha H., Charlie S., Sebastian D., Danny G., Vivian N., Mr. Houdek, Mrs. Houdek, Mrs. Garvey, Mrs. McAlary, Mr. Kalahar, Mrs. Ryan.

Link Box...

[Aquinas Summer Camps](#)
[Calvin College Summer Science Camps](#)
[John Ball Zoo Summer Camps](#)
[Catholic Sports Camps](#)
[Summer Catechetical Youth Program](#)

SEVERE WEATHER



With the arrival of Spring, we need to prepare for severe weather that may occur. *Holy Spirit School will remain in regular session during a severe weather watch/warning.*



In Sympathy

Please remember in prayer, the **Cameron Family**, on the passing of their Grandmother, the **Sekelsky Family** on the death of their Great-Grandfather, and the **Steffens Family** on the loss of their Great-Grandmother. May the memories of their loved ones live on in their hearts and bring them peace.

Holy Spirit Mission Statement

Holy Spirit School promotes the message and teachings of Jesus Christ. Students, parents and faculty form a Catholic family of faith. Together, we challenge our students to achieve their fullest spiritual, academic, social, emotional, and physical potential.



PTA | HOLY SPIRIT
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Thanks to all who participated in the family night at YMCA. We hope everyone had a great time. And thank you to **Kelly Clancy** for your efforts in coordinating this fun night!

There will be some open Committee Chair Positions for the 2019/2020 school year. Keep your eye out for an email with these open spots and please consider volunteering. This is an easy way to get involved with the PTA without a huge time commitment.

With the end of the school year slowly approaching, year-end field trips will be starting! Thanks to PTA funds, students will enjoy year-end picnics and many various field trips. Your support is especially appreciated by the students and teachers during this time.

Reminder: If you have any suggestions or comments for the PTA please contact one of the Board Members.

The final PTA meeting for the school year is TUESDAY, MARCH 26 at 7 PM in the LIBRARY. Hope to see you there!

Join us for the annual Celebrate West! Auction 2019 April 26, 2019 6:30 p.m. at West Catholic High School

Enjoy a wonderful Polish dinner, endless drinks in our WC logo cups, fun games, a bucket raffle and a wonderful live auction with our traditional champagne toast to end the night.

Congratulations to Shelley Hofmann for winning the "Early Bird Raffle" of a Google Home Hub.

FEATURED AUTHOR OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Christian H., in Grade K, our Featured Author of the Month!! Christian has won a lunch of his choice and his story is featured below.

JOHN THE PIG

Once upon a time, there was a farm. On the farm, there was a cow, a horse, a duck, a dog, and a pig named John.

The pig didn't want to be eaten for Thanksgiving dinner, but the farmer wanted to have some bacon with the turkey for Thanksgiving.

So, John the Pig thought of a plan. And his plan was a costume. He decided to disguise himself as a tomato in the tomato patch.

All of the tomatoes in the tomato patch were small and green and the farmer noticed a big, red tomato that kept saying, "Oink, Oink!"

The farmer thought that maybe he shouldn't eat John the Pig for Thanksgiving, so he looked around his farm and thought, "Maybe we'll just have some corn with our turkey instead."

THE END

About the Author

Christian is five years old. He has one brother, Ian. He enjoys playing basketball at West Catholic. His favorite food is macaroni and cheese. His favorite color is blue. When he grows up he would like to be a builder.



Holy Spirit School Calendar, April, 2019

[NWEA MAP Testing 4/22-5/17](#)

[Lunch Supervision, Grade 2](#) / For updated information go to www.holyspiritschoolgr.org

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| | 1 Spring <u>Break Week</u> Child Care Open | 2 Child Care Open | 3 Child Care Open | 4 Child Care Open | 5 Child Care Open | 6 |
| 7 5 th Sunday of <u>Lent</u> Jn 8:1-11 | 8 | 9 Girls on the Run (GOTR) 3:15-5:00 | 10 GOTR 3:15-5:00 | 11 GOTR 3:15-5:00 | 12 Mass 8:45 | 13 |
| 14 <u>Palm Sunday</u> Lk 22:14- 23:56 | 15 | 16 Choir <u>3:20-4:20</u> GOTR <u>3:15-5:00</u> 3:15 Gr. 1 Little Flowers | 17 GOTR 3:15-5:00 | 18 <u>GOTR 3:15</u> Student Council 3:30-4:00 | 19 <u>Good Friday</u> <u>No School</u> Child Care Closed | 20 |
| 21 Easter <u>Sunday</u> Jn 20:1-9 Children's Choir 10:00 Mass | 22 Easter <u>Monday</u> <u>No School</u> Child Care Open | 23 Choir <u>3:20-4:20</u> GOTR 3:15-5:00 | 24 Secretaries' <u>Day</u> GOTR 3:15-5:00 | 25 Titan Toddler <u>Time 10:15</u> GOTR 3:15-5:00 | 26 <u>Mass 8:45</u> Yearbook <u>Orders Due</u> Variety Show Entry Forms <u>Due</u> Newsletter/ Calendar | 27 |
| 28 Sunday of Divine <u>Mercy</u> Jn 20:19-31 | 29 | 30 GOTR 3:15-5:00 | May 1 Gr. 4-5 Field Trip | May 2 GOTR <u>3:15-5:00</u> 1 st Eucharist Practice 6:00-7:30 | May 3 <u>Mass 8:45</u> <u>May Crowning</u> 4 th Quarter Midterms Online | May 4 Evening of Worship 7:00 |

2019 Holy Spirit School - VARIETY SHOW

The 2019 Variety Show is scheduled for Friday, May 31st.

Again this year, we are encouraging students to show off their special talents and gifts to perform an original act. Students may consider presenting:

- A dance routine
- A dramatic reading
- A stand-up comedy routine
- An instrumental or vocal piece
- The “sky's the limit!”

We are asking students to please refrain from lip syncs. All vocal pieces must have karaoke-style or live music for accompaniment.

The variety show entry form is to be turned into the school office by **Friday, April 26th**. Please be sure to fill out the form and read this letter completely with your parents so you understand all the rules. Each participant must have his/her parent's signature.

Acts should be no longer than 2 minutes. Parents, please listen to the music your child has chosen as well as approve dance moves, jokes, and costuming. If deemed inappropriate and/or suggestive, your child will be asked to choose different music, dance moves, and/or costuming.

Please note!!! You must get your music to Mr. Joe Houdek jhoudek@hsparish.org in the form of iTunes or YouTube by **Friday, May 10th**.

Rehearsal and approval dates will be announced the week of **May 6th** and will be held during lunch hour from 11:45-12:15 in the gym. These dates are to give out information to all the acts and/or approve the content of the act. These are not open practice sessions. Students are responsible for organizing the members of their act and practicing at home or at times other than the final rehearsal and approval dates. Keep in mind during your practicing that the stage area is 16 feet long and 12 feet wide.

If you have any questions or concerns, we will be happy to help you.

Variety Show Committee

Elise Hollister
Holly Mullen
Holli Sweedyk
Lizzie Duffy
Paula Ryan

Music/Sound Equipment Coordinator

Joe and Kathleen Houdek

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL
Variety Show Entry Form – 2019

TYPE OF ACT: _____

SONG TITLE/ARTIST: _____

***Please Note: All participants must be enrolled at Holy Spirit School.
Depending upon the number of interested participants –
students may be limited to one performance.***

| | <u>List of Persons Participating:</u> | <u>Grade/Class</u> | <u>Phone #:</u> | <u>Parent's Signature</u> |
|----|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Length of act (**Not to exceed 2 min.**): _____.

Equipment Needed (provided by participant): _____.

Equipment Needed (provided by Holy Spirit): _____.

Parents are requested to help at the rehearsals or with show set-up – please include a phone number where we might contact you to schedule a time to help (i.e. assisting with 11:45-12:15 rehearsal sessions, making phone calls from home, decorating for show). Thank you!

Parent Name: _____ Phone Number _____ Day _____ Evening _____

Date rec'd: _____ Rec'd by: _____ Act approved: _____

Please return this completed form to the school office by **Friday, April 26th**.

Please return this completed form to the school office by Friday, April 26th.

2018-19 YEARBOOK SALE Don't Miss Out!

Order now for a yearbook this spring!

Return the following form to your teacher by Friday, April 26th.

Please order _____ yearbook(s) for the _____ family.

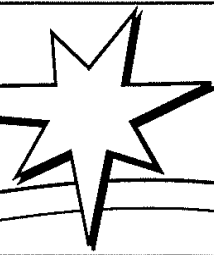
I have enclosed \$10 for each book ordered.

Checks may be made payable to **Holy Spirit School.**

Please send the yearbooks home with _____ in Gr ____.

Parent's Signature _____

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

April 2019

Parish of the Holy Spirit
Religious Education



Thoughtful Moments

St. Isidore of Seville

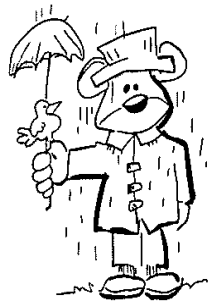
St. Isidore was educated by his older brother, St. Leander, the future Bishop of Seville. Isidore found his studies so challenging, he ran away from home! Yet, he went on to become the last of the ancient Christian philosophers, writing treatises on various topics. As bishop, he converted the invading Visigoths and reunified Spain by improving its education system. He also led two Church councils. At his death, he donated all his possessions to the poor.



Gossip

Teach children the harmful nature of gossip. Gossip is making mean comments about others, spreading stories you're not sure are true, or repeating information you have been asked to keep private. No one has a right to know someone else's business. If in doubt, don't let it out.

"For this very reason make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge ..."
(2 Peter 1:5).



Spread Easter joy throughout the year

Catholics don't just celebrate Easter once a year. Every Sunday we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection. Try these ideas for spreading Easter joy throughout the year.

Something new. It is a time-honored tradition to have something new to wear to church on Easter Sunday - a hat, dress, slacks, or shirt. The new clothing represents the new life Jesus won for us that first Easter. Whatever special clothing you each wear this Easter Sunday, consider saving it to wear only for Mass throughout the year.

Bring Jesus on the road. Jesus revealed himself to his disciples on the

road to Emmaus after his Resurrection. Take Jesus on the road and perform an act of kindness every Sunday. Visit a lonely relative, perform

someone else's chore, take a meal to someone hungry for food or attention.

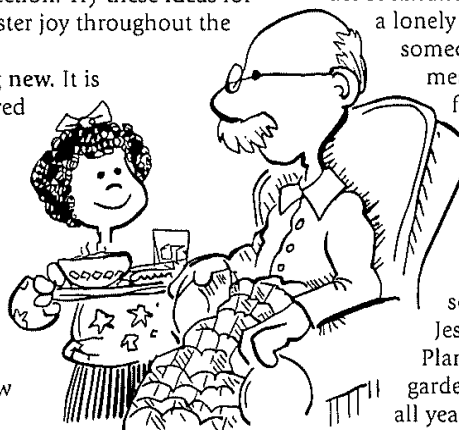
That's how we reveal Jesus to others.

Among the living. In Luke 24, the angels asked the women why they searched for the living

Jesus among the dead. Plant an indoor Easter garden that you can tend all year. Note new leaves,

blossoms, or shoots when they appear, and remember that Easter brings us new life.

Celebrate Easter every week. The Mass is where we can meet Jesus and receive the new life he wants to give us. Don't miss a chance to celebrate Easter every week.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do some Catholics bow or genuflect before receiving Communion?

It used to be that people received Communion kneeling before the altar. Today, in the United States, people generally receive Communion standing, but if they do so, some sign of reverence is strongly recommended (*General*



Instruction of the Roman Missal, #160). Some people still choose to genuflect out of reverence and gratitude for the gift they are about to receive: the Body and Blood of Christ, hidden under the appearances of bread and wine (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1380*).

Getting away with sin doesn't work for long

Have you ever known someone who always seems to get away with breaking rules? That can make sin look attractive. Yet, as followers of Jesus, we know that getting away with sin on Earth isn't desirable. Teach children the importance of virtue for the sake of goodness by telling the story of Susanna.

In the book of Daniel, poor Susanna had a dilemma. Two older respected men of her community cornered her while she was bathing and demanded that she sin with them. They were

in private, and no one need ever know. If she didn't, they promised to falsely accuse her of crimes for which she would die.

As much as she feared the men, Susanna feared God even more. *"If I yield, it will be my death; if I refuse, I cannot escape your power. Yet it is better for me to fall into your power without guilt than to sin before the Lord"* (Daniel 22:23). In the end, God sent Daniel to save her.

Those who follow God always get rewarded in the end.

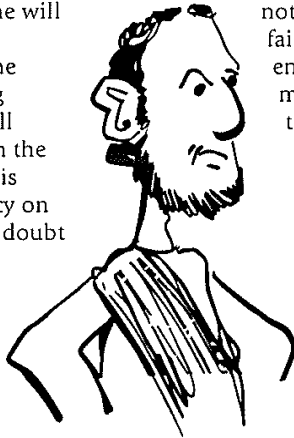


Scripture LESSON

From Scripture: John 20:19-31, Doubting Thomas.

Poor Thomas! A faithful friend and an energetic evangelist, he will always be known as "the Doubter." Even though he witnessed Jesus' amazing miracles firsthand, he still needed help to believe in the Resurrection. Knowing his difficulty, Jesus had mercy on St. Thomas' very human doubt and appeared to him. He invited him to do whatever was needed to become convinced.

St. Thomas doubted, but accepted the Truth when it found him. From his story, we learn



that doubts and questions are not necessarily enemies to faith. A "healthy" doubt encourages us to learn more about our faith, not to walk away from it.

What can a parent do? Tell children that God isn't upset by our questions or doubts, especially the doubt that says, "I'm struggling, please help me." When we struggle with our faith, it's a chance to draw closer to God and go deeper into the Faith.

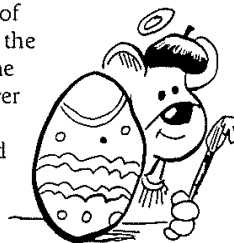
Feasts & Celebrations

April 2 – St. Francis of Paola (1507): St. Francis founded the Minim Friars who lived an ascetic life. Known as a miracle-worker, he also had the gift of prophecy. Upon request, he visited the dying King Louis XI of France. He gave the king much needed comfort, so Louis' son, Charles, built St. Francis a monastery at Plessis, where he lived until his death.

April 23 – St. Adalbert of Prague (997): St. Adalbert was made bishop of Prague, but his conversion efforts made him enemies and he was forced to leave

for Rome. He was later invited by the Duke of Poland to evangelize Pomerania and Hungary, and was martyred.

April 28 – Divine Mercy Sunday. In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy." Jesus promised that anyone who honors him as the King of Mercy and prays the Chaplet of Divine Mercy – the prayer he gave St. Faustina – would receive special graces and great mercy.



Parent TALK

My oldest daughter recently celebrated her birthday. Her only request was to be able to take her friends bowling. But – unbelievable as it may seem for a ten-year-old – she didn't want presents. On the



bottom of the invitations, she wrote "Your presence will be my present. Instead, please bring food for the Knights of Columbus soup kitchen," where we volunteer each month.

Ten girls spent the afternoon giggling, bowling, and enthusiastically eating birthday cupcakes. When it came time to go, we found that there were so many cans of food, we could barely pack them all into my car. When Emma opened her birthday cards, several of them held checks. In all, her friends donated close to \$400 in Emma's honor.

I don't know which pleased me more, Emma's generosity in thinking of the poor on her birthday, or the wonderful and generous girls she has chosen as friends.

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